

LEVITICUS

THE THIRD BOOK OF THE BIBLE

MEANING OF LEVITICUS

- ✱ The English name Leviticus comes from the Latin *Leviticus*, which is in turn from the Ancient Greek: Λευιτικὸν,^[2] *Leuitikon*, referring to the priestly tribe of the Israelites, "Levi."
- ✱ It signifies the "law of priests", as many of its laws relate to priests.
- ✱ These laws have to be practiced and enforced by the priests.

AUTHOR

- Traditionally Moses
- The third book, among the Torah (The Law)
- The third among "Pentateuch"

FACTS

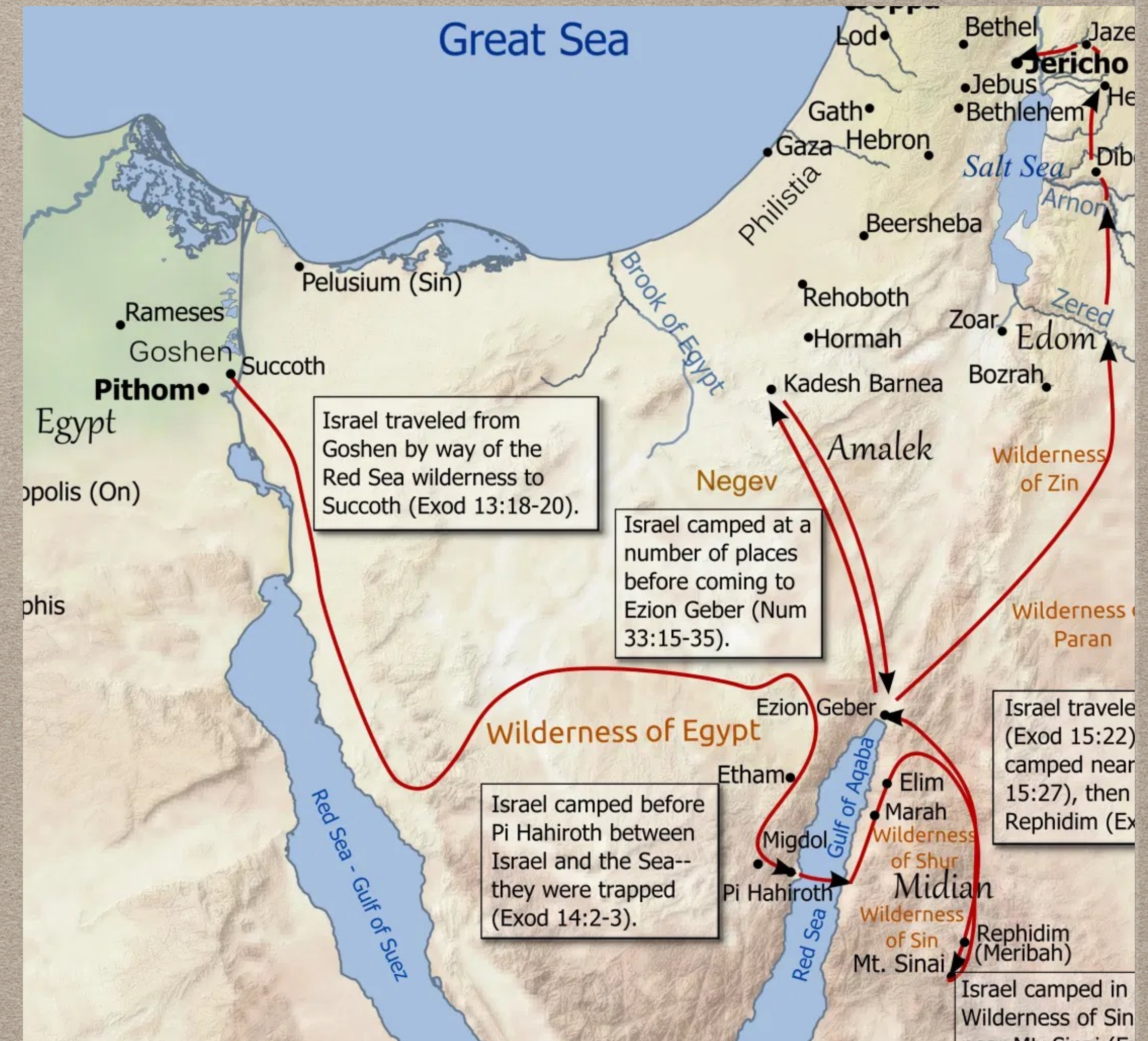
CHAPTERS: 27

VERSES: 659

- ✱ 56 times in the 27 chapters of Leviticus, it is stated that God imparted these laws to Moses.
- ✱ No geographical movement takes place in Leviticus. The Israelites remain at Mt. Sinai.
- ✱ A major message of Leviticus is the holiness of God and how sinful man can approach Him.
- ✱ The idea of "holiness" appears some 87 times in Leviticus.

HISTORICAL TIME PERIOD

- ✱ The Passover occurred on the 14th day of the 1st month of the year (Ex 12:2)
- ✱ The tabernacle was erected at Mount Sinai exactly one year after the Exodus (Ex 40:2, 17)
- ✱ One month later the nation prepared to leave Sinai for the Promised Land (Num 1:1)
- ✱ It seems that the book of Leviticus was given to Moses during the one month period (between the erection of the Tabernacle and the departure of the people for the Promised Land from Mount Sinai)



CONTENTS OF THE BOOK

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- * **ORDINATION OF PRIESTS (ch.8-10) அபிஷேகம்**
- * **RITUAL PURITY (ch.11-15)**
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- * **Day of Atonement (ch.16) பாவநிவாரணபலி**
- * **The Sanctity of Blood (ch.17)**
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- * **QUALIFICATIONS OF PRIESTS (ch.21-22)**
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7 ANNUAL FEASTS (CH.23-25)

1. Passover — Leviticus 23:4-8

- * This feast remembers the last plague in Egypt, when the angel of death “passed over” the children of Israel who applied the blood of the lamb to their doors.
- * The Israelites took a bundle of hyssop and dipped it into the blood in the basin at the threshold.
- * Going up, they put it up on the lintel, then touched the two sides of the frame (Exodus 12).



7 ANNUAL FEASTS (CH.23-25)

2. Unleavened Bread — Lev. 23:6

- * This seven-day feast begins on the day following the start of Passover.
- * In the haste of the Israelites to leave Egypt, there was no time to add leaven (yeast) to their bread.
- * During this time, remembering the hardships in Egypt and how God freed them from captivity, the Jews eat nothing leavened.



7 ANNUAL FEASTS (CH.23-25)

3. First Fruits — Lev. 23:10

- * The Feast of First Fruits is one of three Jewish harvest feasts to thank and honor God for all he provided.
- * Although they didn't know it at the time, the children of Israel were celebrating what would become a very important day.



7 ANNUAL FEASTS (CH.23-25)

4. Feast of Weeks or Pentecost — Lev. 23:16

- * This feast is the second of the three harvest feasts. It occurs exactly seven weeks after the Feast of First Fruits,
- * so it's also called Pentecost which means "50 days."
- * Traditionally, people were expected to bring the first harvest of grain to the Lord including two leavened loaves of bread.



7 ANNUAL FEASTS (CH.23-25)

5. Feast of Trumpets — Lev. 23:24

- ✳ In a beautiful declaration God commands his people to rest.
- ✳ During this time all regular work is prohibited, and men and women present a food offering to God.



7 ANNUAL FEASTS (CH.23-25)

6. Day of Atonement — Leviticus 16, 23:26-32

- * To make “atonement” is to make restitution for wrongs committed.
- * As a day of humility and repentance to God, it was a time for the Jews to get their hearts, consciences and lives right before him.
- * Before entering the tabernacle, Aaron was to bathe and put on special garments (v. 4), then sacrifice a bull for a sin offering for himself and his family (v. 6, 11).
- * The blood of the first goat was sprinkled on the ark, ritually appeasing the wrath of God for another year.
- * The second goat removed the sins of the people into the wilderness where they were forgotten and no longer clung to the people.



7 ANNUAL FEASTS (CH.23-25)

7. Feast of Tabernacles or Booths — Lev 23:34

- * Celebration always follows the Day of Atonement.
- * The Feast of Tabernacles celebrates God's provision and protection for the people of Israel during their 40 years wandering in the wilderness;
- * for the seven days of the feast, people live in temporary structures like they did in the wilderness.
- * The Lord himself was with the Israelites in the desert, in a tented temple called the tabernacle,
- * so the feast also celebrates his presence as he tabernacles (dwells) with us.



THE PURPOSE OF LEVITICUS

1. REMEMBER THE GOD OF ISRAEL

- * The 5 offerings served as a REMINDER of God's Goodness & Grace in Time of need.
- * The 7 Feasts served as a REMINDER of WHO THEY WERE & how GOD WAS GOOD to them.

2. REMOVE THE EVIL INFLUENCE

- * Because the Israelites had been held captive in Egypt for 400 years, the concept of God had been distorted by the polytheistic, pagan Egyptians.

3. REALIZE & REFLECT THE NATURE OF GOD, THEIR KING

- * HIS HOLINESS | HIS JUSTICE | HIS MERCY

THE PURPOSE OF LEVITICUS

4. RULES TO REGULATE THE COMMUNITY

- * Right & Responsible Living
- * right down to the food we eat, the fabric for our clothing, the way you trim your hair and beard

5. RETAIN & RESTORE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE HOLY GOD

- * The purpose of Leviticus is to provide instruction and laws to guide a sinful, yet redeemed people in their relationship with a holy God.
- * The word “*Holy*” is mentioned more times in Leviticus, than any other book in the Bible. We may look at Leviticus as a unbearable and undesirable book with all the rules right from personal purity rules written in minute detail.
- * But for the Israelites, it could have been a life-saver.
- * Because by knowing what God requires for us to survive in His presence is only good to know...

THE PURPOSE OF LEVITICUS

- * In Leviticus spiritual holiness is symbolized by physical perfection.
- * Therefore the book demands perfect animals for its many sacrifices (chs. 1–7) and requires priests without deformity (chs. 8–10), any signs of blemish (a lack of perfection) and may symbolize human spiritual defects, which break spiritual wholeness.
- * **Leviticus 1:1** - Now the Lord called to Moses, and **spoke to him from the tabernacle of meeting...**
- * **Numbers 1:1** - Now **the Lord spoke to Moses** in the Wilderness of Sinai, **in the tabernacle of meeting**

6. MAKE READY FOR THE LAND THEY WILL POSSESS

- * For their Land & Livestock to be blessed
- * For the rains
- * For Protection from Enemies

THE PURPOSE OF LEVITICUS

7. REHEARSAL FOR THE COMING SAVIOR

Feast of Passover - Jesus is that lamb slain for us. His death allows the judgement we deserve to pass over us.

Feast of Unleavened Bread - The unleavened bread represents Jesus' sinless life; he is the only perfect sacrifice for our sins.

Feast of First Fruits - This "third day" celebration was the same day that Jesus resurrected from the dead. In 1 Corinthians 15:20 Paul refers to Jesus as the first fruits of the dead.

Feast of Weeks / Pentecost - The day the Church was born — Pentecost — and the harvest began with 3,000 souls. The message spread to both Jews and Gentiles (the two leavened loaves of bread)

Feast of Trumpets - the sound of a trumpet is also associated with the rapture, or the time Jesus will return for his bride (1 Corinthians 15:52).

Feast of the Day of Atonement (ch.16-17) - The bull and one of the goats was an offering of thanks, but the "scapegoat" took on their sins (Leviticus 16:10). The scapegoat was to be burdened with all the sins of Israel and sent into the wilderness.

Feast of Tabernacles - He put on a temporary tabernacle — a human body — to dwell on this earth and offer himself as a sacrifice.